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State Capitol.
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McDonald.html](http://www.senatedems.ct.gov/McDonald.html)*

Dear Friends,

The 2005 session is filled with tough challenges and, together with my colleagues, I have been working to find common sense solutions to them. I've included a brief summary of the most pressing issues on the other side of this mailer. I encourage you to let me know what your concerns are and to share your thoughts on important issues with me. I've included several ways to contact me on this card.

Sincerely,



Andrew J. McDonald
State Senator, 27th District



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STATE SENATOR

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ANDREW J. McDONALD *Your State Senator*



Making Government **SMARTER** and **More ACCOUNTABLE**

Our state continues to face difficult times, both financially and in restoring public trust in government. That's why I'm working to set Connecticut on a course that protects families and reforms state government. This can be accomplished by making our programs and services "smarter" and more efficient, and by increasing accountability to the public.

Budget Responsibly

- Secure Connecticut's fair share of federal funds, particularly in the area of health care
- Improve our tax structure in order to meet the state's commitments and provide property tax relief

Protect and Promote Education

- Reaffirm our commitment to quality schools and improve the Education Cost Sharing formula
- Improve school readiness programs by expanding successful models

Ensure Quality, Affordable Healthcare

- Increase access for the uninsured and underinsured
- Help nursing homes deliver quality care to seniors

Restore Trust in Government

- Improve the State Ethics Commission by limiting political influence and creating a stand-alone office
- Strengthen state contracting standards and provisions of the state ethics code
- Enact meaningful campaign finance reforms

Provide Economic Security and Transportation Relief

- Link economic development resources, including state university research, to emerging economic sectors and enhance worker retraining programs
- Reverse transportation gridlock by increasing support for mass transit, rail and deep-water ports; replace and expand the Metro-North fleet